CATECHISM

Revised (C-7)

Willard C. Ent
Newton, Kansas

A

CATECHISM

or

Brief Lessons from the Holy Scriptures

in

Question and Answer
as taught by Mennonites.

"Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11.

Revised 1937

General Conference of the
Mennonite Church of North America

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PREFACE

A number of years ago the Board of Education of the General Conference of the Mennonite Church of North America was instructed to undertake a revision of the English Catechism. The Board assigned this task to the undersigned, who with the very efficient assistance of Rev. P. P. Tschetter of Freeman, S. Dak., prepared a revision for the consideration of this Board and the Conference.

At its Bluffton, Ohio, session in August, 1933, the Conference ordered its publication upon the approval of the Education and Publication Boards; and that before this is done opportunity be given for any suggestions to be made.

Numerous suggestions have been received and incorporated in the revision. The present booklet is the product of this work. It is sent forth with the prayer that its diligent use may be a means in God's hands of leading youth to Christ, and that its careful scrutiny may inspire servants of God to the production of yet another greatly improved manual of redemptive truth.

P. R. Schroeder.

Freeman, S. Dak., April 9, 1934.

Revised for Reprint

by

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Prepared for the Board of Publication of the General Conference of the Mennonite Church of North America.

Bluffton, Ohio,
March, 1937

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This revision of the Catechism has been carefully read and approved by the chairman of the Board of Publication. He endorses the the painstaking work of Dr. Mosiman and those who assisted him.

All ministers using this edition are requested to report any errors that may come to their attention to the publishers so that corrections, if any, may be inserted before the next edition is printed.

Mennonite Book Concern
Berne, Indiana.

BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

Some months ago the Board of Publication requested that the Senior Catechism be revised for a needed reprint, limiting the revision to the correction of errors, forms and modes of expression, but without change of subject matter. The task proved to be not an easy one.

One of the great heritages of the Mennonite Church is "The right of the individual to his private interpretation of the Scriptures under guidance of the Holy Spirit." It naturally follows that the best commentary on the Scriptures is the Scripture Itself. Our ancestors were great Bible readers and devoted students of the Word of God.

A catechism should be, first of all, a stimulus to the youth of the Church to search the Scriptures, to become diligent readers and devoted students of the Bible. To this end a future revision of the Catechism in the direction of simplicity may be needed.

Private interpretation of the Scriptures leads to diversity of interpretations. This need not be a weakness, but may become a source of strength, provided that charity prevails, and diversity of gifts be recognized. Christian fellowship should follow in the wake of knowledge of the Word of God.

The writer is indebted for helpful suggestions, as the revision drew to a close, to the brethren, Suderman, Richert, Kreider, Suckau and Schroeder.

I trust that every minister in the Mennonite Church may receive this work in the spirit it was revised, that he may find it helpful in his work, and that he will offer suggestions for its improvement in a future edition.

S. K. Mosiman.

Bluffton, Ohio
March 1, 1937.

INDEX

Page

INTRODUCTION 9

OUTLINE:

Part One — CREATION 11
Part Two — FALL 23
Part Three — REDEMPTION 28

PART ONE — THE CREATION

Chapter 1. God the Creator and Preserver of All Things 11
I. Knowing God through Nature, and the Conscience 11
II. Knowing God through the Holy Scriptures 12
III. The Holy Scriptures 13
Chapter 2. God Revealed as the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit 15
Chapter 3. How God Created Everything 18
I. The Creation of Man 18
II. The Angels 19
Chapter 4. God the Preserver and Ruler of the World 21

PART TWO — THE FALL OF MAN INTO SIN

I. The Condition of Man before the Fall 23
II. The Fall of Man 24
III. The Results of the Fall 25

PART THREE — THE REDEMPTION OF MAN

SECTION 1.

(Redemption: — Divine Provision)

Chapter 1.—God's Plan of Redemption 28
I. The Promise to Adam and the Patriarchs 29
II. The Law, a Schoolmaster unto Christ 30
III. Predictions Concerning Christ 34

INDEX

		Page
Chapter 2.	Redemption through Christ	36
I.	The Birth of Jesus Christ	36
II.	The Baptism and Public Ministry of Our Lord	37
III.	The Suffering and Death of Our Redeemer	38
IV.	Christ's Resurrection and Ascension	40
V.	The Redeemer's Threefold Office	41
VI.	The Sending of the Holy Spirit	43
VII.	Grace for All	45
	SECTION 2	
	(Redemption: — Human Response.)	
Chapter 3.	Faith in Christ	47
I.	Saving Faith	47
II.	The New Birth and the Godly Life	48
III.	Justification	49
IV.	Sanctification	50
V.	The Church of God	51
VI.	Baptism	52
VII.	The Lord's Supper	53
Chapter 4.	The Life and Conduct of the Believer	56
I.	The Christian's Attitude in Respect to Enemies, to Revenge, and to Suffering	57
II.	Government and the Oath	58
III.	Domestic Life of the Christian	59
IV.	Prayer	61
V.	Knowing and Doing	64
VI.	Church Discipline	66
	SECTION 3	
	(Redemption — Consummation.)	
Chapter 5.	Future Destiny of Man	68
I.	Death	68
II.	The Coming Again of Christ	69
III.	The Resurrection	72
IV.	Judgment	75
V.	Conclusion	78
	The Apostles' Creed	80

IN JESUS' NAME

Brief Lessons from the Holy Scriptures in Question and Answer

INTRODUCTION

Q. 1. What should be our chief aim in this life?

Ans. To live in God's fellowship, enjoy his favor, and obtain eternal happiness hereafter.
I Cor. 1:9. God is faithful, by whom—
Jn. 15:5. I am the vine, ye—
I Jn. 1:6, 7. If we say that we—
I Jn. 2:17. And the world passeth away,—

Q. 2. Must we not provide for the needs of the body?

Ans. Yes: but in a Christian manner, seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.
Mt. 6:31-34. Therefore take no thought,—
Ps. 37:4. Delight thyself also in the Lord;—
Rom. 13:14. But put ye on—

Q. 3. What is the Kingdom of God?

Ans. The essential qualities of the Kingdom of God are righteousness, and

peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit; at present it consists of the whole body of believers, promoting the redemptive purpose of God; in its fulness it is the coming universal kingdom of righteousness under Christ, "and when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all."

Lk. 17:20, 21. And when he was demanded—
Rom. 14:17,18. For the kindgom of God is—
(R. V.)
Jas. 2:5. Hearken, my beloved brethren,—
Dnl. 7:14. And there was given him dominion,—
Mt. 6:10. Thy kingdom come. Thy—
I Cor. 15:23-28. But every man in his—

Q. 4. How do we become members of the Kingdom?

Ans. By faith in God through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Mt. 18:3. And said, Verily I say—
Jn. 17:3. And this is life—
Heb. 11:6. But without faith—

Q. 5. Is it enough to profess faith with the lips?

Ans. No: faith without works is dead; faith working by love gives life.

Jas. 2:26. For as the body without—
Gal. 5:6. For in Jesus Christ—

PART ONE

THE CREATION

Chapter 1

God the Creator and Preserver of all Things.

Q. 6. Who created all things?

Ans. God: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (R. V.)
Gen. 1:1. In the beginning God—
Heb. 11:3. Through faith we understand—

Q. 7. How can we know that there is a God?

Ans. Nature, the conscience, and the testimony of the Holy Scriptures teach us that there is a God.
Job 38:4ff. Where wast thou when—
Rom. 1:19, 20. Because that which may be—
Rom. 2:15. In that they show the work of the law—(R. V.)

I

Knowing God through Nature, and the Conscience.

Q. 8. How does nature teach us that there is a God?

Ans. All created things teach us that there must necessarily be a God, who created all things.

Job 12:7-10. But ask now the beasts—
Acts 17:24-28. God that made the—

Q. 9. What does Paul say on this subject?

Ans. He says: "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them: for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Rom. 1:19, 20.

Q. 10. How does the conscience teach us that there is a God?

Ans. Our conscience bears witness of God, by reminding us of our responsibility to the unwritten law of God in our heart.

Rom. 2:14,15. For when the Gentiles —
Ps. 32:3, 4. When I kept silence—
Ps. 139:7-13. Whither shall I go from—

II.

Knowing God through the Holy Scriptures.

Q. 11. What do the Scriptures say that God is?

Ans. That God is a Spirit, the One living and true God, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in his being; that he is un-

fathomable, all-seeing, all-knowing, omnipotent and omnipresent; that he is perfect in love, wisdom, holiness, justice, goodness and truth, and that he is most gracious, benevolent, merciful and longsuffering.

Jn. 4:24. God is a Spirit—
I Jn. 4:8. He that loveth not—
Dt. 6:4. Hear, O Israel: The Lord—
Ps. 90:2. Before the mountains were—
Jas. 1:17. Every good gift and—
Ps. 139:7-10. Whither shall I go from—
Jer. 23:23, 24. Am I a God at hand—
Rom. 16:27. To God only wise—
Gen. 17:1. I am the Almighty God—
Isa. 6:3. And one cried unto another—
Num. 23:19. God is not a man—
Dt. 32:4. He is the Rock—
Rom. 11:33. O the depth of the—
Ps. 103:8. The Lord is merciful—

III

The Holy Scriptures.

Q. 12. What are we to understand by the Holy Scriptures?

Ans. The writings of the Old and New Testament, called the Bible.

Q. 13. Are these writings the Word of God?

Ans. They are: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.

II Tim. 3:16. All Scripture is given—

Q. 14. Were the Scriptures not written by the will of men?

Ans. No: "For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit." II Peter 1:21. (R. V.)
"What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia." Rev. 1:11.
II Pet. 1:21. For the prophecy came not—
Rev. 1:11. Saying, I am Alpha—

Q. 15. Are the Scriptures the infallible truth?

Ans. They are: for all things therein foretold of Christ have been literally fulfilled.
Mt. 26:56. But all this was done—
Lk. 24:26, 27. Ought not Christ to—

Q. 16. Is it profitable for us diligently to read the Scriptures?

Ans. It is: for if we know the holy scriptures from childhood, they are able to make us wise unto s a l v a t i o n through faith in Christ Jesus.
II Tim. 3:15. And that from a child—
Rom. 1:16,17. For I am not ashamed—
Ps. 19:8. The statutes of the Lord—

Chapter 2

God Revealed as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Q. 17. What do the Scriptures further teach concerning God?

Ans. That God revealed himself therein as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Mt. 28:19. Go ye therefore—(R.V.)
II Cor. 13:14. The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ—

Q. 18. What do the Scriptures testify of God the Father?

Ans. That he is the true Father over all called children, in heaven and earth; that he is the Father of all believers, and that he is, in a special manner, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Eph. 3:15. Of whom the whole—
I Cor. 8:6. But to us there is—
II Cor. 1:3, 6. Blessed be God—

Q. 19. What is said in the Scriptures of Christ, the Son of God?

Ans. That He is the true, eternal, and only begotten Son of God.
Ps. 2:7. I will declare the decree—
Rom. 8:32. He that spared not—
Jn. 1:14. And the Word was—

Q. 20. Is Jesus Christ the Son of God, from all eternity?

Ans. Yes: He was with the Father before the world was; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.
Jn. 17:5. And now, O Father—
Mic. 5:2. But thou, Bethlehem—

Q. 21. Is He also true God?

Ans. Yes: He is the true God, and eternal life.
I Jn. 5:20. And we know that—

Q. 22. What do the Scriptures teach concerning the Holy Spirit?

Ans. That he is a person equal with the Father and the Son, sent from the Father by the Son, thus coming from the Father and the Son and is one with them.
Jn. 15:26. But when the Comforter—

Q. 23. Is the Holy Spirit also called God?

Ans. Yes: For when Ananias had lied to the Holy Spirit, Peter said: Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.
Acts 5:3, 4. But Peter said, Ananias—

Q. 24. Are then the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit three Gods?

Ans. No: there is only one God: manifesting himself in three persons.

Dt. 6:4. Hear, O Israel: The Lord—
Mk. 12:29. And Jesus answered him—
Mt. 28:19. Go ye therefore—
II Cor. 13:14. The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ—

Chapter 3

How God Created Everything.

Q. 25. By whom did God create all things?

Ans. He created all things by Jesus Christ, by whom he also made the world.
Jn. 1:1-3. In the beginning was—
Eph. 3:9. And to make all men—
Heb. 1:2. Hath in these last days—

Q. 26. Did the Holy Spirit also have a part in the work of creation?

Ans. Yes: By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. Ps. 33:6.
Gen. 1:2. And the earth was without—

Q. 27. In how many days did God create all things?

Ans. In six days God made heaven and earth and all things, and rested on the seventh day, and blessed and sanctified it. Gen. 1 and 2.
Ex. 20:11. For in six days—

I

The Creation of Man.

Q. 28. What are we taught of man's creation?

Ans. God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him;

male and female created he them. Gen. 1:27.

Q. 29. How many human beings did God create in the beginning?

Ans. Only two: Adam and Eve. From them all mankind has descended.
Acts 17:26. And hath made of one—

Q. 30. Out of what was Adam created?

Ans. Out of the dust of the ground; and God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.
Gen. 2:7. And the Lord God formed—

Q. 31. How was Eve created?

Ans. The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and God took one of his ribs and made a woman from it, and brought her unto him.
Gen. 2:21, 22. And the Lord God caused—

Q. 32. Where did the Lord God place our first parents, Adam and Eve?

Ans. In a garden in Eden.
Gen. 2:8. And the Lord God planted—

II

The Angels

Q. 33. Are there also created beings in Heaven?

Ans. Yes: the angels.
Heb. 1:6, 7. And again, when he—
Heb. 1:14. Are they not all—

Q. 34. What are angels?

Ans. They are ministering spirits.
Heb. 1:7. And of the angels he saith—

Q. 35. For what purpose did God create angels?

Ans. To praise and extol God, and minister to the good of his children.
Isa. 6:1-3. In the year that king—
Mt. 18:10. Take heed that ye despise—
Ps. 34:7. The angel of the Lord—

Q. 36. Did the angels remain true?

Ans. Not all: some turned against God, and are kept in everlasting chains under darkness, unto the judgment of the great day.
Jude 6. And the angels which—

Q. 37. What are these fallen angels called?

Ans. Evil spirits, or devils.
Lk. 7:21. And in that same hour—
Mk. 5:12. And all the devils—

Q. 38. What is their nature and activity?

Ans. They are enemies of God, and seek the eternal destruction of mankind.
I Pet. 5:8. Be sober, be vigilant—
Lk. 22:31. And the Lord said, Simon—
Jn. 8:44. Ye are of your father—

Chapter 4

God the Preserver and Ruler of the World.

Q. 39. How does God provide for His creatures?

Ans. He causes the grass to grow for the beast, and corn for man. He gives to all life and breath, and all things.
Ps. 104:14. He causeth the grass—
Ps. 145:15. The eyes of all wait—
Acts 17:25. Neither is worshipped with—

Q. 40. Can anything live without God's care?

Ans. No: for if he takes away their breath, they perish.
Ps. 104:29. Thou hidest thy face—

Q. 41. Does God govern all things He created?

Ans. Yes: He governs the nations upon the earth, and he will reign forever and ever.
Ps. 67:4. O let the nations be glad—

Q. 42. Can we understand God's care and government?

Ans. No: God's ways are past finding out, and his judgments are unsearchable.
Rom. 11:33. O the depth of the—
Ps. 147:5. Great is our Lord—

Q. 43. What does all this teach us?

Ans. That we should trust in God, our Creator, preserver, and ruler, cast all our care upon him, and seek his kingdom and his righteousness, trusting that all things shall be added unto us.

Mt. 6:33. Seek ye first the—

I Pet. 5:7. Casting all your care—

PART TWO

THE FALL OF MAN

I

The Condition of Man Before the Fall.

Q. 44. What was man's condition in Paradise?

Ans. It was glorious and highly blessed.
Gen. 1:28, 29. And God blessed them:—

Q. 45. Was man created good?

Ans. Yes: God made man upright. He created man in his own image, after his own likeness.
Eccl. 7:29. Lo this only have I—
Gen. 1:26. Let us—, after our likeness—
Gen. 1:27. So God created man—

Q. 46. Wherein does man's likeness to God consist?

Ans. God created man a living, immortal soul, endued with knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness.
Gen. 2:7b. And man became—
Eph. 4:24. And that ye put—
Eccl. 12:7b. and the spirit shall—

Q. 47. Did Adam and Eve continue in their blessed condition?

Ans. No: they sinned and fell away from God—they and all their posterity.
Rom. 5:12-19. Wherefore as by one—

II

The Fall of Man.

Q. 48. What sin against God did our first parents commit?

Ans. In disobedience to God's command, they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden when he said: "Thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die."
Gen. 2:17. But of the tree—
Gen. 3:3. But of the fruit—

Q. 49. What induced them to commit this sin?

Ans. An evil spirit, through the serpent, beguiled our first mother.
Gen. 3:1-13. Now the serpent—
I Tim. 2:14. And Adam was not—

Q. 50. Who is this evil spirit?

Ans. He is called the Devil, and Satan, who was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth.
Rev. 12:9. And the great dragon—
Jn. 8:44. Ye are of your father—

Q. 51. How did Satan beguile Eve?

Ans. He said: ye shall not surely die—ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil.
Gen. 3:4,5. (R. V.) And the serpent said—

Q. 52. Why did they so readily believe?

Ans. They became desirous through the deception of Satan to become wise and like God.
Gen. 3:5. For God doth know—(R. V.)
Gen. 3:6. And when the woman saw—
Jas. 1:13, 14. Let no man say—

III

The Results of the Fall.

Q. 53. What were the results of Adam's disobedience?

Ans. Sin and Death came into the world.
Rom. 5:12. Wherefore, as by one man—
Gen. 6:12. And God looked upon the earth—
Jas. 1:15. Then when lust—

Q. 54. What do we understand by sin?

Ans. First, the sinful condition of man; then, the sins of omission and commission as a result of the sinful condition.
Gen. 8:21. The imagination of man's heart—
Ps. 51:5. Behold, I was shapen—
Jer. 17:9. The heart is deceitful—
Mt. 7:16-20. Ye shall know them—
Mt. 12:33-35. Either make the tree—
Mt. 15:18, 19. But those things—

Q. 55. How did sin reveal itself in Adam's posterity before the flood?

Ans. All flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth, so that the Lord had to destroy them from the earth. Only Noah and his house found grace.
Gen. 6:12, 13. And God looked—(R. V.)
Gen. 6:8. But Noah found grace—

Q. 56. Is there anyone on earth without sin?

Ans. No: that which is born of the flesh is flesh. No one is without sin, except the Son of God, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Jn. 3:6. That which is—
Lk. 1:35. And the Angel—(R. V.)
Heb. 7:26. For such an high—

Q. 57. What do we mean by death unto sin?

Ans. By being dead unto sin we mean that the reign of sin in our life, which leads to death, has been replaced by the reign of grace, which leads to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Rom. 5:21. That as sin has—
Rom. 6:2. How shall we, that are—
Rom. 6:11. Likewise reckon ye also—

Q. 58. What do we mean by spiritual death?

Ans. By spiritual death we mean the separation of man from God, either by rejecting, or refusing to accept the gift of God, which is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Rom. 6:23. For the wages of sin—

Rom. 8:6. To be carnally minded—
I Thess. 5:19. Quench not the spirit.
Gal. 5:16-26. This I say then, walk in the spirit.

Q. 59. What should this teach us?

Ans. From this we should learn, that by nature we are prone to evil, and are children of wrath; and, realizing our sinful condition, we should seek forgiveness through the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Eph. 2:1-22. And you hath he quickened—
Gal. 5:1, 16-26. Stand fast therefore—

PART THREE

THE REDEMPTION OF MAN

SECTION I

Redemption:—Divine Provision

Chapter I

God's Plan of Redemption.

Q. 60. Did God suffer man to perish in sin and misery?

Ans. No: He redeemed his people.
Lk. 1:68. Blessed be the Lord—

Q. 61. How did he redeem them?

Ans. By giving his only begotten Son.
Jn. 3:16. For God so—
Rom. 8:32. He that spared not—

Q. 62. How could God give His Son?

Ans. He had to partake of flesh and blood; that through death he might destroy him that had power of death, that is the devil.
Heb. 2:14, 15. Forasmuch then as—
II Tim. 1:9, 10. Who hath saved us—

Q. 63. Was there no other way to redeem us?

Ans. No: no one could, by any means, redeem his brother.
Ps. 49:7. None of them—
Heb. 7:26, 27. For such an high priest—
Rev. 5:3, 4. And no man—

Q. 64. Was only one, our Savior, to die for all?

Ans. Yes: for as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
Rom. 5:19. For as by one—

I

The Promise to Adam and the Patriarchs.

Q. 65. How could man know that a Redeemer was to come to atone for his sin?

Ans. God made this known to Adam, for he said to the serpent: He (the seed of the woman, Christ) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
Gen. 3:15. And I will put enmity (R. V.)
Rom. 16:20. And the God of peace—
Gal. 4:4. But when the fulness—

Q. 66. Has this promise reference to Christ?

Ans. Yes: to Christ, the Crucified One.
Col. 2:15. And having spoiled—
I Jn. 3:8. He that committeth—
Rev. 13:8. And all that dwell—

Q. 67. Did the faithful before the flood believe in this promise?

Ans. Yes: by faith Abel offered unto God. So were Enoch and Noah of the faith.
Heb. 11:4-7. By faith Abel—

Q. 68. To whom did God make this promise more clearly?

Ans. To Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, when he said: In thee, and in thy seed, shall all families of the earth be blessed.
Gen. 12:3. And I will bless—
Gen. 26:4. And I will make—
Gen. 28:14. And thy seed shall—
Gal. 3:16. Now to Abraham—

II

The Law, a Schoolmaster unto Christ.

Q. 69. By what means did God nurture the people of Israel before the advent of Christ?

Ans. He gave them the law of Moses: especially the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, written upon two tables of stone.
Ex. 20:1-17. And God spake all these words—

Q. 70. What are the Ten Commandments?

Ans. And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have

brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

I

Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.

II

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God:

in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V

Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI

Thou shalt not kill.

VII

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII

Thou shalt not steal.

IX

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neigh-

bor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

Q. 71. What is the sum and substance of these ten Commandments?

Ans. Jesus summed up the ten Commandments, including all the law and the prophets, in these words: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great Commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Mt. 22:37b-39.
Mt. 22:40. On these two—

Q. 72. Has the law respect only to actions?

Ans. No, it has special respect to the inward movings or desires of the heart.
I Tim. 1:5. Now the end—
Jer. 31:33. But this shall be—
I Sam. 16:7. But the Lord—
Mt. 15:19. For out of the heart—

Q. 73. Does the law forbid secret lusts?

Ans. By all means; for it is written: Thou shalt not covet.
Rom. 7:7. What shall we—

Q. 74. Has anyone ever fully kept the law?

Ans. No: they are all gone out of the way,

they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one.
Rom. 3:9-19. What then?—

Q. 75. For what purpose was the law given?

Ans. That it might be a schoolmaster, till Christ appeared; and that man might have a knowledge of sin.
Gal. 3:24. Wherefore the law—
Rom. 3:20. Therefore by the deeds—

Q. 76. Can salvation be obtained by keeping the law?

Ans. No; "By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight."
Rom. 3:20. Therefore by the—

III

Predictions Concerning Christ.

Q. 77. What did Moses say of the Savior?

Ans. He said: "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken."
Dt. 18:15. The Lord—

Q. 78. Did the prophets foretell the coming of Christ?

Ans. Yes: all the prophets from Samuel, and those that follow after, as many

as have spoken, have foretold his coming and mission.
Acts 3:24. Yea, and all—

Q. 79. Are there any predictions in the Psalms concerning Christ?

Ans. Not only the writings of Moses and the prophets, but also the psalms prophesy concerning Christ.
Lk. 24:44. And he said—
For predictions of Christ as:

1. The Royal Messiah
   See Psalms 2, 18, 20, 21, 45, 72, etc.
2. The Suffering Messiah
   Psalms 22, 69, 109, etc.
3. The Son of Man
   Psalms 8, 16, 40.
4. The Coming of God
   Psalms 18, 50, 96-98.

Chapter 2

Redemption through Christ.

I

The Birth of Jesus Christ.

Q. 80. When did the Savior appear in this world?

Ans. When the time, which had been predicted, was fully come, God sent his Son.
Gen. 49:10. The sceptre shall—
Lk. 2:1. And it came—
Gal. 4:4. But when the—

Q. 81. How did he partake of flesh and blood?

Ans. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary; and he was named Jesus.
Mt. 1:18 25. Now the birth—(R. V.)
Lk. 1:35. And the Angel answered—(R. V.)

Q. 82. Where was the Savior born?

Ans. At Bethlehem, in Judea.
Mic. 5:2. But thou Bethlehem—
Lk. 2:4. And Joseph—

Q. 83. Under what circumstances was he born?

Ans. He was born in a manger, for there was no room at the inn; but he was heralded by angels, rejoiced over by

shepherds, and worshipped by Wise Men from the east.
Lk. 2:7. And she brought—
Lk. 2:9, 13-14. And, lo, the angel—
Lk. 2:20. And the shepherds—
Mt. 2:1. Now when—
Mt. 2:11. And when they were—

Q. 84. Where was he brought up?

Ans. At Nazareth.
Lk. 4:16. And he came—

II

The Baptism and Public Ministry of Our Lord.

Q. 85. When was Jesus proclaimed as the son of God?

Ans. At the age of thirty, when he was baptized of John. For a voice from heaven said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
Mt. 3:17. And lo a voice—
Lk. 3:22. And the Holy Spirit—(R. V.)

Q. 86. Whereby did Jesus prove himself to be the Savior of the world?

Ans. By his teaching and miraculous works; he taught as one having authority and not as the scribes, and he performed many miracles.
Mk. 1:22. And they were—
Jn. 11:47. Then gathered—

Q. 87. What was the substance of his preaching?

Ans. The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.
Mk. 1:15. And saying,—

Q. 88. What miracles did Jesus perform?

Ans. He opened the eyes of the blind, made the lame walk, cleansed the lepers, unstopped the ears of the deaf; loosed the tongues of the dumb; he raised the dead, and did many other miracles.
Lk. 7:19-22. And John calling—

III

The Suffering and Death of Our Redeemer.

Q. 89. What did Christ finally do for us?

Ans. He died for our sins according to the scriptures.
I Cor. 15:3. For I delivered—

Q. 90. What is the real significance of the death of Jesus Christ?

Ans. It is an offering for the sins of the whole world by which he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.
Heb. 10:10. By the which will—
Heb. 10:14. For by one—

Q. 91. When did his sufferings begin?

Ans. In the night, in which he was betrayed by Judas, in the Garden of Gethsemane, his soul became exceeding sorrowful, even unto death.
Mt. 26:36-38. Then cometh Jesus—

Q. 92. Why had he to suffer such agony?

Ans. The Lord laid on him the iniquity of us all.
Is. 53:5-7. He was wounded—
II Cor. 5:21. For he hath made—

Q. 93. What followed his agony of soul?

Ans. He suffered himself to be taken, condemned, and to be delivered over unto death by Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator of Judea.
Mt. 26 and 27.

Q. 94. What manner of death did the Savior die?

Ans. He was crucified outside the gates of Jerusalem, between two murderers.
Jn. 19:17, 18. And he bearing—

Q. 95. Why was it necessary for the Savior to die on the cross?

Ans. That he might redeem us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: "for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." Gal. 3:13.
Dt. 21:22, 23. And if a man—

Q. 96. Was Jesus buried?

Ans. Yes: they laid him in a new tomb, hewn out in a rock.
Mt. 27:59, 60. And when Joseph—

IV

Christ's Resurrection and Ascension.

Q. 97. Did the Lord remain in the tomb?

Ans. No: he arose on the third day, according to the scriptures.
Lk. 24:34. Saying the Lord—
I Cor. 15:4. And that he—
Ps. 16:10. For thou wilt—

Q. 98. Of what does his resurrection assure us?

Ans. That we are justified through his blood; for he was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.
Rom. 4:25. Who was delivered—

Q. 99. Was Christ seen after the Resurrection?

Ans. Yes: "To whom (the apostles) he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Acts 1:3.

Q. 100. What took place after the forty days?

Ans. Jesus led his disciples out over against Bethany on Mount Olivet, and there ascended into heaven.
Lk. 24:50, 51. And he led—(R. V.)
Acts 1:9, 10. And when he—

Q. 101. What did Christ obtain for us by his ascension?

Ans. By his own blood he entered in once for all into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
Heb. 9:12. Neither by the—
I Jn. 2:1. My little children—

V

The Redeemer's Threefold Office.

Q. 102. In what ways are we to regard Christ as having accomplished our redemption, and as leading us in the way of salvation?

Ans. We are to regard him in the office of a prophet; in the office of a priest; and in the office of a king.
Acts 3:22. For Moses truly said—
Heb. 5:5, 6. So also Christ glorified—
Jn. 1:49. Nathanael answered him—

Q. 103. What is his prophetic office?

Ans. In his prophetic office he reveals to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Heb. 1:1, 2. God who at sundry times—
Mt. 5:17-19. Think not that I—
Dt. 18:15. The Lord thy God—

Q. 104. What is Christ's office as High Priest?

Ans. Christ as our High Priest has offered himself up, once for all, a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice and reconcile us to God, "and since he ever liveth," he makes continuous intercession for us, and blesses us as his children.
Heb. 9:28. So Christ was once—
Heb. 7:25, Wherefore he is able—
Heb. 9:26, For then must he—
See also Rom. 8:34; Eph. 1:3; Jn. 17:1-26.

Q. 105. What is Christ's office as King?

Ans. He subdues people to his power, he rules and defends them, he restrains and conquers his and our enemies, and protects and rewards his own.
Ps. 110:3. Thy people shall—
Jn. 13:34. A new commandment—
I Cor. 15:25. For he must reign—
Acts 18:9, 10. Then spake the Lord—
Jer. 23:5, 6. Behold the days come—
Mt. 25:34. Then shall the king—

Q. 106. What is the nature of Christ's kingdom?

Ans. Christ's kingdom is not of this world: it is a spiritual kingdom, a kingdom of righteousness, of grace and of peace, of power and of glory:

it is an eternal kingdom, but is yet to assume an earthly, glorious form. But flesh and blood shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (See question 3).

VI

The Sending of the Holy Spirit.

Q. 107. What gift did Christ bestow upon his own, after his ascension?

Ans. He gave them the Holy Spirit, according to his promise.
Jn. 14:16. And I will—26. But the Comforter—
Acts 1:4, 5. And being assembled—

Q. 108. When did this occur?

Ans. On the day of Pentecost.
Acts 2:1-4. And when the—

Q. 109. Was the Holy Spirit given to the apostles only?

Ans. No. Peter said: The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off.
Acts 2:39. For the promise—

Q. 110. Does every Christian have the Holy Spirit?

Ans. Yes: if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
Eph. 1:13, 14. In whom ye also—
Rom. 8:9. But ye are not in the flesh—

Q. 111. What effect does this have on the body of the believer?

Ans. It makes his body the temple of God.
I Cor. 2:16. Know ye not—
I Cor. 2:19, 20. What? know ye—

Q. 112. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer?

Ans. He testifies of Jesus; he comforts the believer and sanctifies him, leads him into all truth, and through the Holy Spirit, the love of God is shed abroad in his heart.
Jn. 15:26. But when the—
I Cor. 6:11. And such were—
II Thess. 2:13. But we are—
I Pet. 1:2. Elect according—
Rom. 5:5. And hope maketh—

Q. 113. Are we enjoined to be filled with the Spirit?

Ans. Yes. Paul says: Be filled with the Spirit.
Eph. 5:18-20. And be not—

Q. 114. Who were chosen to fill offices in the first church?

Ans. Men full of the Holy Spirit.
Acts 6:3. Wherefore, brethren, look—(R. V.)
Acts 11:22-24. Then tidings of—

Q. 115. What did the Holy Spirit particularly enable the apostles to do?

Ans. He enabled them to preach the gospel with power to all people; to organize believers into churches; to strengthen the elect in the faith by visits and letters; to endure persecution and suffer martyrdom. Out of this ministry, under guidance of the Holy Spirit, came our New Testament.
Lk. 1:1-4. Forasmuch as many—
Acts 1:1. The former treatise—
Rom. 1:14-17. I am debtor—
I Thess. 5:27. I charge you—
Col. 4:16. And when this epistle—
Jn. 14:26. But the Comforter—

Q. 116. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in respect to the world?

Ans. He convicts the world in respect of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.
Jn. 16:8-13. (R. V.) And he, when—

VII

Grace for All.

Q. 117. Was God's message of salvation only for the people of Israel?

Ans. No: the Word of God was first to be spoken to the Jews; but afterwards to the Gentiles.
Acts 13:46. Then Paul and—

Q. 118. Is it the will of God that all men should be saved?

Ans. Yes: God would have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
Jn. 3:16. For God so loved—
I Tim. 2:4. Who would have—(R. V.)

Q. 119. Has redemption been provided for all?

Ans. Yes: Christ gave himself a ransom for all.
I Tim. 2:6. Who gave himself—
Rom. 5:18. Therefore as by—

Q. 120. Do all accept this redemption?

Ans. No: not all are obedient to the gospel.
Rom. 10:16. But they have—
II Thess. 1:8. In flaming fire—

Q. 121. What does God's provision for our redemption teach us?

Ans. That God has fully provided for our redemption through the death of Christ on Calvary, and that it is his only plan, sufficient for all men's needs and free to all who will accept it.

SECTION 2

Redemption:—Human Response

Chapter 3

Faith in Christ.

I

Saving Faith.

Q. 122. What is the true way to salvation?

Ans. Faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as our Savior, and his shed blood.
Jn. 20:31. But these are written—
Mt. 16:16, 17. And Simon Peter answered—
Rom. 3:25. Whom God hath set—

Q. 123. What is true faith?

Ans. Faith "is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1.

Q. 124. Do we earn salvation by faith?

Ans. No: but faith embraces the finished work of Christ, whereby we obtain salvation and eternal life.
Jn. 3:36. He that believeth on—

Q. 125. What does true faith imply?

Ans. Real repentance and sorrow for sin; that we become convinced of our sinfulness, and repent thereof.

Mk. 1:15. And saying, The time—
Rom. 7:24. O wretched man—

Q. 126. What further change is brought about in man's heart by true faith?

Ans. He is converted from the error of his way unto Christ the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.
Jas. 5:20. Let him know, that he—
I Pet. 2:25. For ye were as sheep—
Lk. 15:17-19. And when he came to—

II
The New Birth and the Godly Life.

Q. 127. What is this change of heart called in the New Testament?

Ans. It is called Regeneration—New Creation.
Jn. 3:3. Jesus answered and said—
Gal. 6:15. For in Christ Jesus—
Tit. 3:5. Not by works of—
Jn. 6:28, 29. Then said they unto him—
Heb. 5:9. And being made perfect—

Q. 128. Who produces or brings about regeneration in us?

Ans. God himself brings about regeneration in us by his Word and Spirit, unto the obedience of Christ.
I Pet. 1:3. Blessed be the God—
Jn. 3:5. Jesus answered, Verily—
Jas. 1:17. Every good gift and—
II Cor. 10:5. Casting down imaginations—

Q. 129. Is it necessary, then, that everyone who desires to be a true Christian be regenerated ("born again")?

Ans. Yes: for without regeneration no one can see the kingdom of God.
Jn. 3:3-5. Jesus answered and said—

Q. 130. Does regeneration produces a godly life?

Ans. Yes: whosoever is born of God, does not commit sin.
I Jn. 3:9. Whosoever is born of God—

Q. 131. Can we not, through our own strength, avoid sin, and do good?

Ans. No: for Christ says: Without me, ye can do nothing.
Jer. 13:23. Can the Ethiopian change—
Jn. 15:5. I am the vine—

Q. 132. Is holy living possible only through Christ and his grace?

Ans. Yes: for Christ is made of God unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.
I Cor. 1:30. But of him are ye—

III

Justification.

Q. 133. What is justification?

Ans. It is the act of God whereby he pronounces the sinner, who believes in

his Son, free from all guilt, and righteous in his sight.
Rom. 4:5. But to him that—
II Cor. 5:21. For he hath made him—

Q. 134. How, then, are we justified?

Ans. We are justified freely without any merit of our own, by God's grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
Rom. 3:24, 25. Being justified freely—
Gal. 2:16. Knowing that a man—

Q. 135. Wherein does justification benefit us?

Ans. Being justified, we have peace with God as his children, are freed from bondage of sin and are aided in perfecting holines in the fear of God.
Rom. 5:1. Therefore being justified—
Rom. 8:16. The Spirit itself beareth—
Jn. 8:36. If the Son therefore—
Heb. 12:14. Follow peace with all men—
II Cor. 7:1. Having therefore these promises—

IV

Sanctification.

Q. 136. What is sanctification?

Ans. To be sanctified is to be freed from the dominion of sin, and to persevere in well-doing.
Rom. 6:22. But now being made free—

Q. 137. Must a Christian be sanctified, or become holy?

Ans. Yes: for as he who called us is holy, so must we be holy, in all manner of living.
I Pet. 1:15. But as he which hath—

Q. 138. Who produces, or works sanctification in us?

Ans. We are sanctified and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit of our God.
I Cor. 6:11. And such were some of you—

V

The Church of God.

Q. 139. What is the Church of God?

Ans. The collective body of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.
I Cor. 1:2. Unto the church of God—

Q. 140. How does Christ regard his Church?

Ans. As his body. He is the head of the body, the church.
Eph. 1:22, 23. And hath put all things—
Col. 1:18. And he is the head—

Q. 141. Are all who profess to belong to the church of God, true members of the body of Christ?

Ans. No: they only are true members, who by faith in Christ have become the children of God.
Gal. 3:26. For ye are all children—

Q. 142. Are there to be teachers and ministers in the Church?

Ans. Yes: the teachers are to preach the word diligently and exhort; but the Church is to hear and obey the word—
II Tim. 4:2. Preach the word—
Tit. 1:5. For this cause left I thee—
Heb. 13:7. Remember them which have—

VI

Baptism.

Q. 143. What did the Lord Jesus command concerning baptism?

Ans. He said to his disciples: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Mt. 28:19.

Q. 144. What did Christ say of the importance of baptism?

Ans. He said: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mk. 16:16.
Mt. 28:18-20. And Jesus came and—

Q. 145. Who are to be baptized?

Ans. All who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and are converted unto him.

Acts 2:38. Then Peter said unto them—
Mk. 16:16. He that believeth and—

Q. 146. What is the purpose of baptism?

Ans. It identifies the believer with his Lord. It is also an ordinance of Christ serving as a sign of being spiritually born of God, of putting on Christ, and of being united with the Church. It is evidence of a covenant with Christ.
Gal. 3:26, 27. For ye are all the—
I Cor. 12:13. For by one Spirit are we—

Q. 147. What does baptism teach us?

Ans. It teaches us that we are buried with Christ by baptism into death; that we have died to sin; that, like as Christ was raised up from the dead, by the glory of the Father, even so we should also walk in newness of life.
Rom. 6:4, 5. Therefore we are buried—
I Pet. 3:21. The like figure whereunto—
Rom. 6:2b, 3. We who died—(R. V.).

VII

The Lord's Supper.

Q. 148. When and by whom was the Lord's Supper instituted?

Ans. By Jesus Christ himself, in that night when he was betrayed.
Mt. 26:26-28. And as they were eating—

Q. 149. How did he institute it?

Ans. With bread and the fruit of the vine.
Lk. 22:19,20. And he took bread—
I Cor. 11:23-25. For I have received—
Mt. 26:29. But I say unto you—
Mk. 14:25. Verily, I say unto you—

Q.150. For what purpose was the Lord's Supper instituted?

Ans. To commemorate the sufferings and death of Christ; To serve as a token of communion with Christ, and of communion of believers with each other; and as a prophecy of his coming again.
I Cor. 11:25, 26. After the same manner—
I Cor. 10:16, 17. The cup of blessing—

Q. 151. Is the Lord's Supper to be commemorated often?

Ans. Yes: according to the example of the first Christians.
Acts 2:41, 42. Then they that gladly—

Q. 152. Who is to commemorate it?

Ans. All believers who have been baptized and are penitent in heart.
Acts 2:41, 42. Then they that gladly—

Q. 153. How shall the members of his body come to the Lord's Supper, so that they may be blessed in partaking of it?

Ans. In repentance and faith, with true love to Christ and the brethren, with good will toward all men, and above all, with an earnest determination to follow the Lord with a new sincerity and zeal, and to be faithful to him unto the end, through good days and evil days.

Mt. 5:23, 24. Therefore if thou bring—

I Cor. 11:27, 28. Wherefore whosoever shall eat—

Q. 154. What are we to show forth thereby?

Ans. We are thereby to show forth the Lord's death till he comes.

I Cor. 11:26. For as often as ye eat—

Chapter 4

The Life and Conduct of the Believer.

Q. 155. What should be the believer's conduct in his daily walk and life?

Ans. As the redeemed of the Lord he should serve God in holiness and righteousness, which is acceptable to him, and let his good works shine before men.
Lk. 1:74, 75. That he would grant—
Mt. 5:16. Let your light so shine—

Q. 156. What new commandment did the Lord Jesus give us?

Ans. He said: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Jn. 13:34.

Q. 157. What kind of an example did the Lord Jesus give his disciples regarding the importance of humility, service, and daily cleansing from sin?

Ans. He washed their feet and said: "If I, then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." Jn. 13:14, 15.

I

The Christian's Attitude in Respect to Enemies, to Revenge, and to Suffering.

Q. 158. What should be our attitude toward our enemies?

Ans. Christ said: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your father, which is in Heaven." Mt. 5:44, 45.

Q. 159. What ought we to do, if we are injured by any one?

Ans. We are not to render evil for evil, or railing for railing.
I Pet. 3:9. Not rendering evil for—
Rom. 12:17-21. Recompense to no man—

Q. 160. Should a true Christian suffer patiently?

Ans. Yes: for it is written: For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. I Pet. 2:21.
Mt. 10:22. And ye shall be hated—

Q. 161. How does Christ comfort his own in their sufferings?

Ans. He says: "Blessed are ye, when men

shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Mt. 5:11-12.

II

Government and the Oath.

Q. 162. How shall a Christian conduct himself towards the authorities of his country?

Ans. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power, but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Rom. 13:1.

Q. 163. What does Christ say concerning the taking of oaths?

Ans. He says: "But I say unto you, swear not at all; —let your communications be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these, cometh of evil."
Mt. 5:34-37. But I say unto you—

Q. 164. Is this said of all oaths?

Ans. Yes: for James says: "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath." Jas. 5:12.

Q. 165. What did Christ say of idle words?

Ans. "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Mt. 12:36.

III

Domestic Life of the Christian.

Q. 166. Who instituted marriage?

Ans. The Lord God himself, with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.
Gen. 2:18. And the Lord God said—
Gen. 2:24. Therefore shall a man—

Q. 167. What individuals may unite in marriage?

Ans. Those not too near in blood-relationship, and of the same faith.
See Leviticus, chaps. 18 and 20. And the Lord spake—
I Cor. 7:39. The wife is bound by—
II Cor. 6:14. Be ye not unequally yoked —

Q. 168. May married persons be divorced?

Ans. No: they shall not be divorced, save for the cause of fornication.
Mt. 19:3-9. The Pharisees also came —
Mt. 5:32. But I say unto you —

Q. 169. How should married persons conduct themselves towards each other?

Ans. Husbands and their wives should dwell together in mutual love, respect and reverence. According to the Apostle Paul, in his exhortations to holiness, it should be an holy relationship, as that between the Lord and his Church.
"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love is wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." Eph. 5:33.
Eph. 5:22-32.

Q. 170. What are parents to do for their children?

Ans. They are to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
Eph. 6:4. And ye fathers, provoke not—

Q. 171. How are children to behave toward their parents?

Ans. They are to obey their parents in all things. Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise.
Col. 3:20. Children, obey your parents—
Eph. 6:1-3. Children, obey your parents —

Q. 172. What have men-servants and maid-servants to observe toward their superiors?

Ans. That they, in all things, obey their earthly masters; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; then they shall re-

ceive of the Lord, the reward of the inheritance.
Col. 3:22-24. Servants, obey in all things—

Q. 173. How are superiors (heads of families) to be disposed toward their domestics?

Ans. They should remember the admonition: "Forbearing threatening; knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him." Eph. 6:9.

IV

Prayer.

Q. 174. By what means do we obtain all things from God?

Ans. By prayer. Ask, and it shall be given unto you.
Mt. 7:7, 8. Ask, and it shall be—

Q. 175. What does Jesus teach us about secret prayer?

Ans. Secret praying should be done in the closet with definite expectation of an answer.
Mt. 6:6. But thou, when thou prayest—
(notice singular pronoun)

Q. 176. What does Jesus teach us about public prayer?

Ans. Public praying should be done with-

out vain repetitions as the heathen do. For our Father knoweth what things we have need of, before we ask him. Mt. 6:7, 8. But when ye pray—
(notice plural pronoun)

Q. 177. How are we to call upon God, the Father?

Ans. In the name of Jesus, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
Jn. 14:13. And whatsoever ye shall ask—

Q. 178. After what manner did Jesus teach us to pray?

Ans. Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. Mt. 6:9-13.

The Lord's Prayer in Outline

I. The Address. "Our Father who art in heaven." (R. V.)

II. The Seven Petitions.

A. For Blessings.

a. Spiritual.

1. The Name of God. "Hallowed be thy name."

2. The Kingdom of God. "Thy kingdom come."
3. The Will of God. "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

b. Material.

4. Bread. "Give us this day our daily bread."

B. For Protection.

5. From Guilt. "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."
6. From Temptation. "Lead us not into temptation."
7. From Evil. "Deliver us from evil."

III. The Doxology. "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Q. 179. Does God at all times, hear our prayers?

Ans. This is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us. Still he sometimes delays our petitions, in order to strengthen our faith.
I Jn. 5:14. And this is the confidence—
Mt. 15:22-28. And, behold, a woman—

Q. 180. Are we also to call upon Jesus Christ our Lord?

Ans. Yes: they all shall honor the Son, as they honor the Father, and call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Jn. 5:23. That all men should honor—
I Cor. 1:2. Unto the Church of God—
Acts 7:59. And they stoned Stephen—

Q. 181. How does one pray in the name of Christ Jesus?

Ans. As the mediator between God and man, who gave himself a ransom for all.
I Cor. 1:2. Unto the church of God—

Q. 182. What part does the Holy Spirit have in our prayer?

Ans. He helps our infirmities; he teaches us how to pray; he makes intercession for the saints, according to the will of God.
Rom. 8:26, 27. Likewise the Spirit also—

Q. 183. What should we bear in mind in every prayer?

Ans. Thanksgiving. "But in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6.
Eph. 5:20. Giving thanks always for—
Ps. 50:23. Whoso offereth the sacrifice of thanksgiving (R. V.)

V

Knowing and Doing.

Q. 184. Is it necessary that we should know what is good?

Ans. Yes: but knowledge without proper

application of it in our lives puffeth up; charity edifieth.
I Cor. 8:1. Now as touching things offered—

Q. 185. In what spirit should we receive all knowledge? (Gal. 5:22, 23)

Ans. We should be humble and unassuming; for if a man thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Gal 6:3.

Q. 186. What benefit do we derive from knowledge?

Ans. We must know the will of God, that as children of the light we may walk after God in righteousness and true holiness.
I Thess. 5:4-11. But ye, brethren, are not—
Eph. 4:17-32. This I say, therefore,—
I Tim. 3:15. But if I tarry long—

Q. 187. Does mere knowledge then not suffice?

Ans. No: we must be doers of the word.
Jas. 1:22. But be ye doers—

Q. 188. What is the duty of Christians in all they do, in word and deed?

Ans. "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." Mt. 7:12.
"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:17.

Q. 189. What should we say when we have done all things?

Ans. We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.
Lk. 17:10. So likewise ye, when ye—

VI

Church Discipline.

Q. 190. If a brother or sister of the church should fall into sin, how should such a one be dealt with?

Ans. We are to restore such a one in the spirit of meekness.
Gal. 6:1. Brethren, if a man be—
Mt. 18:15. Moreover if thy brother—

Q. 191. But if the offender will not receive correction?

Ans. He shall be dealt with a second time in the presence of one or two witnesses.
Mt. 18:16. But if he will not—

Q. 192. But what are we to do with him, who refuses admonition, or persists to live in gross sin?

Ans. He is to be excommunicated from the Church, and we are to have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet we shall count him not

as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

Mt. 18:17. And if he shall neglect—
I Cor. 5:11. But now I have written—
II Thess. 3:6-15. Now we command you—

Q. 193. What if he repents?

Ans. Sufficient to such a man is the punishment, which was inflicted by many; we must all the more forgive, and comfort him.

II Cor. 2:6, 7. Sufficient to such a man—

Q. 194. What do we learn of man's responsibility to God's plan of redemption?

Ans. That it must be received by faith, and confessed openly through the ordinance of the Christian Church, maintained through prayer and meditation on God's Word and practiced daily in the domestic and public life of the believer.

SECTION 3

Redemption—Consummation

Chapter 5

Future Destiny of Man.

I

Death.

Q. 195. What is the end of this natural life?

Ans. The end of this natural life is death.
Eccl. 12:7. Then shall the—
Gen. 3:19. In the sweat of thy face—

Q. 196. Must all men die?

Ans. It is appointed unto men once to die.
Heb. 9:27. And as it is—

Q. 197. Are there any exceptions?

Ans. There were two. Enoch and Elijah.
Gen. 5:24. And Enoch walked—
II Kings 2:11. And it came—

Q. 198. Will there be exceptions in the future?

Ans. Those who are alive and remain at the sound of the last trumpet.
I Cor. 15:51-52. Behold, I shew—
I Thess. 4:17. Then we which—

Q. 199. Does the soul die with the body?

Ans. No: the soul is immortal.
Mt. 10:28. And fear not—

Q. 200. What becomes of the soul after death?

Ans. This is shown in the example of the rich man and Lazarus.
Lk. 16:19-26. There was a—

II

The Coming Again of Christ.

Q. 201. Will Christ come again?

Ans. Yes: Jesus taught his disciples to look for his coming again; also as angels heralded his birth, and angels announced his resurrection, so angels predict his coming again. His coming again is clearly taught in the Gospels, the Acts, the Epistles and Revelation.
Jn. 14:3. And if I go and prepare—
Lk. 12:35, 36. Let your loins be girded—
Acts 1:10, 11. And while they looked stedfastly—

Q. 202. What will be the manner of Christ's coming again?

Ans. Christ is coming again in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory; he is coming visibly, he is coming suddenly, and without warning.
Acts 1:9-11. And when he had spoken these things—

Mt. 24:30. And then shall appear—
Rev. 1:7. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every—
Lk. 21:34, 35. And take heed to yourselves—

Q. 203. What is the purpose of Christ's coming again?

Ans. He is coming again to receive his own; to fashion anew the body of our humiliation; to render to every man according to his deeds; to judge the living and the dead, as also the nations. All to the end that his kingdom of righteousness and holiness may be consummated.
I Thess. 4:16, 17. For the Lord himself shall—
Phil. 3:20, 21. (R.V.) For our citizenship is—
Mt. 16:27. (R.V.) For the Son of man shall come—
II Tim. 4:1. I charge thee therefore—
Mt. 25:31, 32. But when the Son of man—(R. V.).
I Jn. 3:2. Beloved, now are we—

Q. 204. When will Christ come again?

Ans. Neither the time, nor the day and hour of his coming has been revealed to us. —"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." Mk. 13:32.
I Thess. 5:1, 2. But of the times and the seasons—

Q. 205. What are some of the signs of Christ's coming again?

Ans. A falling away from the faith; the coming of grievous times; being absorbed in the things of this world; also a universal preaching of the gospel.
II Thess. 2:2, 3. That ye be not soon—
II Tim. 3:1-13. This know also—
Mt. 24:37-39. But as the days—
Mt. 24:14. And this gospel—

Q. 205a. What are the benefits to his own of Christ's coming again?

Ans. Rightly understood, the promise of Christ's coming again is full of divine cheer, and a great stimulus to preach the gospel in all the world. At his coming the dead in Christ shall rise; the bodies of believers shall be transformed; they shall ever be with the Lord; they shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is; they shall be manifested in glory; and they shall receive a crown of righteousness, and reign with him.
I Thess. 4:16,17. For the Lord himself—
Phil. 3:20, 21. For our conversation is—
I Thess. 4:17. Then we which are alive. —
I John 3:2. Beloved, now are we—
Col. 3:4. When Christ, who is our life,—
II Tim. 4:8. Henceforth there is laid—
Rev. 20:4. And I saw thrones—

Q. 205b. What should be the attitude of believers with respect to Christ's coming again?

Ans. It should be that of grateful anticipation and purification. Believers should pray that the Lord may direct the heart into patient watching for Christ, and give them grace to purify themselves, so as to be ready for his coming.
II Thess. 3:5. And the Lord direct—
Mt. 24:42-44. Watch therefore—
Lk. 12:35-40. Let your loins—
I Jn. 3:3. And every man that hath—

III

The Resurrection.

Q. 206. Will the dead rise again?

Ans. Yes: At the coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ the bodies, both of the just and the unjust, will be raised up.
I Cor. 15:12, 13. Now if Christ be preached—
Acts 24:15. And have hope toward God—

Q. 207. What do the Scriptures teach about the resurrection of the just?

Ans. We are told that,
First, in the order of resurrection, is "Christ the firstfruits"; also, at the crucifixion of Jesus, "many bodies of the saints that had fallen asleep were raised"—

I Cor. 15:23, a, b. But every man in his order—

Mt. 27:51-53, R.V. And behold the veil—

Second, in the order of resurrection, are "they that are Christ's at his coming." "The dead in Christ shall rise first."

I Cor. 15:23, c. Afterward they that are—

I Thess. 4:16. For the Lord himself—

Q. 207a. What do we understand by the FIRST RESURRECTION?

Ans. Saint John, in his vision of the glorified saints, who were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, states **"they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.** But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished." **"This is the first resurrection."**

Rev. 20:4-6. And I saw thrones,—

Q. 208. What will be the nature of the resurrected body of those fallen asleep in Jesus?

Ans. It will be a changed body; not flesh and blood; but it will be a spiritual body, glorious, incorruptible, powerful and heavenly.

Phil. 3:21. Who shall change our vile body—

I Cor. 15:35-38. But some will say—(R. V.).

I Cor. 15:50, 51. Now this I say, brethren,—

I Cor. 15:44. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.

I Cor. 15:43, a, b. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory;
I Cor. 15:43 c. it is sown in weakness,—
I Cor. 15:47-49. The first man is of—

Q. 208a. What is the destiny of believers who are alive at Christ's coming?

Ans. They shall be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump.—For this corruption must put on incorruption—. I Cor. 15: 51-53.

Q. 209 What is the future destiny of believers?

Ans. They shall come forth "unto the resurrection of life;" They will be like Christ; "for we shall see him as he is;" They, both the resurrected at his coming, and "we which are alive and remain, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: **and so shall we ever be with the Lord.**" They shall be sharers with Christ in God's glory and kingdom, "heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ;—that we may also be glorified together."

Jn. 5:29. And shall come forth—
I Jn. 3:2. Beloved, now are we—
I Thess. 4:16,17. For the Lord himself shall—
Rom. 8:17. And if children—
I Thess. 2:12. R.V. — to the end that ye should—

Q. 209a. What is the future destiny of unbelievers?

Ans. All men shall be raised again from the dead, those who reject Christ, as well as those who accept him; but for the unrighteous it will be a resurrection unto the righteous judgment of God.
Rom. 2:5-9. But after thy hardness—
Jn. 5:29. —and they that have done evil—

IV

Judgment

Q. 210. Why is judgment necessary?

Ans. Judgment is necessary in order that the righteousness of God be vindicated; that all righteousness be rewarded; and that all evil be exposed and awarded its just recompense.
Ps. 103:6. The Lord executeth—
I Tim. 5:24, 25. Some men's sins are open—
Rom. 2:5, 6. But after thy hardness—
Mt. 12:20. A bruised reed shall—
I Cor. 4:5. Therefore judge nothing, before—

Q. 211. How does the Lord judge believers?

Ans. Believers, in life, find their judgment at the cross, afterwards at the first resurrection.
Col. 2:14. Blotting out the—
Isa. 53:6. All we like sheep—
Gal. 3:13. Christ hath redeemed—
I Cor. 5:5. To deliver such an one—
I Cor. 11:30-32. For this cause many—

Lk. 19:17-19. And he said unto them—
II. Cor. 5:10. For we (believers) must—

Q. 212. Will there be other judgments?

There will be—

A judgment of the nations.

Ps. 8:12. Ask of me, and I—
Dnl. 2:43, 44. And whereas thou—
Dnl. 7:13, 14. I saw in the night—
Mt. 25:31, 32. When the Son of man—
Rev. 11:15. And the seventh angel—
Rev. 19:11-21. And I saw heaven—

A judgment of the dead.

Jn. 5:28, 29. Marvel not—
II Thess. 1:5-10. Which is a manifest—
Rev. 11:18. And the nations were—
Rev. 20:11-13. And I saw—

A judgment of Satan and the Angels.

Rev. 20:10. And the devil—
II Pet. 2:4. For if God spared—
I Cor. 6:3. Know ye not that—

Q. 213. Will God have any respect of persons in judging men?

Ans. No: He will render to every man according to his deeds: For there is no respect of persons with God.
Rom. 2:6-11. He will render—

Q. 214. Will men be judged only according to their works?

Ans. No: they will also be called to give account for every idle word that they shall speak; also, God shall judge the

secrets of men; the hidden things of darkness, and the counsels of the heart shall be brought to light and made manifest, even as they are judged for their work.

Mt. 12:13. But I say unto you, That—
Rom. 2:16. In the day when God—
I Cor. 4:5. Therefore judge nothing—
Rev. 20:13. And the sea gave up—

V

Rewards and Punishments.

Q. 215. What shall be the final reward of the faithful?

Ans. The gift of the faithful shall be eternal life, and they shall receive that fulness of joy and refreshing which shall come from the presence of the Lord

"Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of water; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Rev. 7:15-17.

Q. 216. What will be the fate of the unfaithful and disobedient?

Ans. They who know not God, and obey not the gospel of Jesus Christ, shall be punished with everlasting banishment from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.
Mt. 25:41, 46. Then shall he say—
II Thess. 1:7. Who shall be punished—

VI

Conclusion.

Q. 217. What practical lesson should we learn, from our study of God's Word, in respect to God's plan for mankind and the world?

Ans. We should learn that there is a time coming, the day and hour of which is unknown to man, in which everyone will be judged according to his thoughts, words, and deeds; at which time also Christ will come again, when he will change the bodies of those in Christ, having fallen asleep, as also of the living into incorruptible bodies, fitted to reign with him in his kingdom. So will they ever be with him. Therefore, let us watch and pray, that we may be ready at his coming.
I Cor. 15:52. In a moment—
I Thess. 4:16. For the Lord himself—

Q. 218. What ought we to have learned from our study with respect to the development of God's plan of redemption?

Ans. It was planned before the world began. In the fullness of time Christ came to fulfill it. It is for all who will accept it. God will complete it by taking unto himself those who receive it, and by banishing forever from his presence those who reject it. Then when all things shall be subdued unto him, shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all and in all.
Eph. 1:4. According as he hath—
Gal. 4:4. But when the fulness—
Jn. 5:29. And shall come forth—
I Cor. 15:24-28. Then cometh the end—

✧ ✧ ✧

"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." (I Cor. 2:9).

"We know not, O we know not,
What joys await us there;
What radiancy of Glory,
What bliss beyond compare."

"I come Quickly"
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;* the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy †Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*That is, "Continued in the state of the dead, and under the power of death, until the third day."

†The words "Universal" or "General" may be substituted for "Catholic."